

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7024
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 619

RIO DE JANEIRO FOR ASST SECY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: PRESENTATION OF PROPOSALS TO THE SAG

REF: STATE 80447,

CAPE TOWN FIVE PRESENTED PROPOSALS AND ACCOMPANYING MESSAGE
TO BOTHA TODAY (MARCH 30). FOLLOWING IS OUR AGREED REPORT:

BEGIN TEXT: 1. THE CAPE TOWN FIVE SAW FOREIGN
MINISTER BOTHA AND FOURIE FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF THIS
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MORNING, MARCH 30. WE PRESENTED THE PROPOSALS AND
ACCOMPANYING MESSAGE, BOTH OF WHICH BOTHA READ CAREFULLY
BEFORE OPENING THE DISCUSSION. WE ALSO MADE THE TALKING
POINT ON WITHDRAWAL.

2. MUCH TO OUR SURPRISE, BOTHA INITIATED THE
DISCUSSION NOT BY ADDRESSING GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE

BASIC ISSUES RAISED PREVIOUSLY BUT BY RAISING THE SECONDARY ISSUE OF RELEASE OF PRISONERS. HE ASKED US ABOUT THE LACK OF PARITY BETWEEN THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL IN RELATION TO DECISIONS REGARDING THE RELEASE OF DETAINEES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY. HE SAID THAT THE FINAL DECISION ON RELEASE OF DETAINEES HELD BY SOUTH AFRICA RESTED EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND HIS LEGAL ADVISER. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL DID NOT HAVE AN EQUAL ROLE IN RELATION TO NAMIBIANS HELD IN ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA. WE POINTED OUT THAT ALL DECISIONS HAD TO BE TAKEN IN CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AND THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THAT IF THE FORMER WAS NOT SATISFIED, HE COULD MAKE FORCEFUL REPRESENTATIONS TO THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. WE ADDED THAT, AS WE MADE CLEAR IN THE MESSAGE, THERE WAS A PROCEDURE INVOLVING THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WHOM THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO ESTABLISH THE VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THE DECISION OF ANY NAMIBIAN TO REMAIN OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY.

3. HE THEN TURNED TO THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL. HE FOUND AN INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE FLAT STATEMENT IN 8(B) OF OUR PROPOSALS THAT ALL SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD BE WITHDRAWN AFTER THE CERTIFICATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ELECTIONS AND THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF OUR SPEAKING POINT IN WHICH WE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MAY EXPRESS THEIR OPINION ON THE QUESTION. WE EXPLAINED THE REASONS WHY WE COULD NOT INTRODUCE CHANGES TO THE PROPOSAL AT THIS STAGE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT IF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WERE TO EXPRESS AN OPINION CONTRARY TO 8(B), A NEW SITUATION WOULD OBVIOUSLY ARISE BECAUSE THIS WOULD REPRESENT THE VIEW OF THE DULY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA.

4. HE ASKED FOR CONFIRMATION THAT THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW AND ORDER WOULD REMAIN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE POLICE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL. WE CONFIRMED THIS, INDICATING THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL WOULD BE ACTING IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. HE THEN RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE MEANING OF THE WORD "CIVILIANS" IN THE CONTEXT OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR THE NORTHERN INSTALLATIONS (PARA 9 OF THE MESSAGE). WE EXPLAINED THAT THE WORD CIVILIANS COULD BE TAKEN TO COVER POLICE.

5. BOTHA NEXT ASKED WHETHER THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD EXCLUSIVE DECISION OVER THE NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF THE UN FORCE. WE INDICATED THAT HE DID, BUT THAT ANY DECISIONS REACHED WOULD BE TAKEN IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES CONCERNED. WHEN HE QUESTIONED THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE UN, WE URGED HIM NOT TO ASSUME ARBITRARY ACTION ON THE PART OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, REMINDING HIM THAT THE FIVE WERE IN ANY CASE THEMSELVES NOT GOING TO WALK AWAY FROM THE PROBLEM.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CAPE TOWN 0619

RIO DE JANEIRO FOR ASST SCY MOOSE

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR PARA SEVEN

6. DURING THE DISCUSSION OF THE WITHDRAWAL AND UN FORCE LEVEL ISSUES, BOTHA RAISED THE GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION IN NAMIBIA FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF KAPUUNO. IN AN EMOTIONAL AND ACCUSATORY WAY HE SAID THAT THE FIVE HAD TAKEN MANY WEEKS TO REACH FINALITY ON THEIR PROPOSAL DURING WHICH THE LEADERS IN NAMIBIA

HAD PAID A HEAVY PRICE, THE IMPLICATION BEING THAT WE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DEATHS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE LIVES OF OTHER LEADERS ARE IN DANGER AND
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SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PASTOR NJOBA, DIRK MUDGE AND JUDGE STEYN, ALL OF WHOM HE SAID WERE MENTIONED IN THE FIRST CAPTURED SWAPO DOCUMENT GIVEN TO US. THEY NOW HAVE HARD EVIDENCE THAT FIVE MEN CAME FROM ANGOLA TO KILL KAPUUNO. THEY ALSO HAD TESTIMONY FROM ONE OF PASTOR NJOBA'S GUARDS THAT HE WAS OFFERED A LARGE BRIBE FOR INFORMATION ON THE PASTOR'S MOVEMENTS. BRAND FOURIE MADE THE OBSERVATION THAT FOLLOWING THE KAPUUNO ASSASSINATION, THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY, GIVEN THE NUMBER OF ARMS CIRCULATING IN THE TERRITORY, THAT THE LEADERS OF SWAPO MIGHT ALSO BECOME TARGETS.

7. IN CLOSING, BOTHA DESCRIBED HOW THEY PLANNED TO PROCEED IN PREPARING THE RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSALS. HE SAID THAT IT WAS FOR THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA TO DECIDE AND NOT THE SAG. THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL THE DOCUMENT WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE LEADERS OF THE TERRITORY FOR COMMENT. ONCE THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL HAD COMPLETED HIS SURVEY, THE RESULTS WOULD BE CONVEYED TO US. WE TOLD BOTHA THAT A REPRESENTATIVE PARTY OF THE CAPE TOWN FIVE WOULD BE TRAVELLING TO WINDHOEK TODAY TO CARRY OUT A BRIEFING OF INTERNAL GROUPS AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

8. BEFORE LEAVING BOTHA'S OFFICE, WE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY WHAT WE WOULD SAY TO THE PRESS ABOUT OUR MEETING. BOTHA REPLIED RATHER TRUCULENTLY THAT WE SHOULD TELL THE PRESS WHAT WE CONSIDERED TO BE IN OUR INTEREST AND HE WOULD SAY WHAT WAS IN SOUTH AFRICA'S INTEREST. WE UNDERScoreD THE NEED TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY DURING THE PERIOD OF CONSIDERATION OF THE DOCUMENT, ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZED THAT IN DUE COURSE IT WOULD BECOME PUBLIC AS WE MOVED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. BOTHA
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SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PRESENT LEAKS. WE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS MIGHT BE THE CASE, ALTHOUGH OUR RECORD IN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA AFTER THE PREVIOUS PRESENTATION OF OUR PROPOSALS HAD BEEN QUITE GOOD. HE AGREED NOT TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN GIVING THE DOCUMENT TO THE PRESS BUT THOUGHT THAT THIS MIGHT

BE NECESSARY AT SHORT NOTICE IF THE DOCUMENT WERE
LEAKED ELSEWHERE.

9. FOLLOWING THE MEETING WE TOLD THE PRESS WE HAD
PRESENTED THE PROPOSALS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON
BEHALF OF OUR GOVERNMENTS AND DISCUSSED VARIOUS ASPECTS.
IN REPLY TO A QUESTION, WE SAID WE ALL REGARDED THE
HANDLING OF THE PROPOSALS AS A MATTER OF URGENCY. WE
INFORMED THE NEWSMEN OF OUR PLANS TO TRAVEL TO WINDHOEK
LATER TODAY. END TEXT.

10. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF BOTHA'S REMARK PARA 7 ABOVE,
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO RECONSIDER OUR SUGGESTION
REGARDING AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO SOUND OUT
OPINION IN NAMIBIA ON THE PROPOSALS (CAPE TOWN 380).
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